

REMARKS

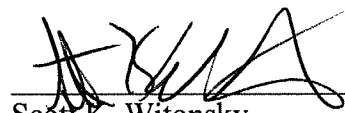
The Examiner required Applicant to elect one of the two following groups of claims:

- Group I (claims 1-5) drawn to a joint structure; and
- Group II (claim 6-11) drawn to a method for manufacturing a joint structure.

The Examiner stated that the inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical feature.

Applicant hereby elects Group I (Claims 1-5), with traverse. Applicant traverses the restriction requirement because of the technical relationship among claims 1-5 and claims 6-11 involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features under PCT Rule 13.2. For example, the Examiner's argument that the first profile member of the claimed joint structure could be directly molded into an angled member using a single molding step (see Office Action mailed 04/27/2007 at page 2) does not recognize that claim 1 recites that the first hollow profile has at least one planar side and is cut through around its circumference in one single plane except for a web lying in the planar side and is bent around this web, and the second hollow profile has at least two directly neighboring planar sides, which press against the ends of the first hollow profile facing toward one another, which result through the cutting and bending, the two hollow profiles being integrally joined to one another at the edge regions of the first hollow profile. Furthermore, claim 6 recites a method for manufacturing a joint structure according to claim 1. For at least these reasons, claims 1-5 and claims 6-11 include the same special technical features that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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